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A breach of faith

When the CIA briefs the Senate Intelligence Committee, other senators are informed with the understanding they will keep it secret. Now Sen. Jesse Helms has leaked the fact that the CIA financed democratic organizations in El Salvador. He says that helped José Napoleón Duarte, the moderate who won the recent presidential election, and harmed Helms' crypto-fascist friend, Roberto d'Aubuisson.

It's a shocking betrayal of trust, and the committee has protested to Senate leaders. They should censure Helms. He has severely hampered President Reagan's foreign policy by his extremist posturing, and on this occasion, he tried to sabotage it. If a Democrat were to act as irresponsibly, Helms would be the first to denounce him.